

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 13625 190916Z

64

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 /127 W

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R 190742Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7616

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT JA

SUBJ: KOBE MAYORALTY ELECTION OCTOBER 28

1. FINAL WEEK OF KOBE MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN LEADING UP TO ELECTION OCTOBER 28 IS EXPECTED TO BE ENLIVENED BY NATIONAL POLITICAL LEADERS, INCLUDING PRIMIN TANAKA, WHO PLAN TO SPEAK LOCALLY IN MAJOR EFFORT ON BEHALF OF CANDIDATES SUPPORTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTIES. INCUMBENT MAYOR TATSUO MIYAZAKI, WITH BACKING OF ALL FOUR OPPOSITION PARTIES, IS OPPOSED BY LDP CANDIDATE SHIGETAMI SUNADA, FORMER THREE-TERM LOWER HOUSE MEMBER WHO LOST SEAT IN 1972 ELECTION.

2. LDP FINDS ITSELF IN EMBARRASSING POSITION OF OPPOSING INCUMBENT MAYOR IT HELPED ELECT ORIGINALLY AS INDEPENDENT, ALSO BACKED BY DSP. HOWEVER, IN JUNE MIYAZAKI BECAME FIRST MAYOR EVER IN JAPAN TO SWITCH FROM CONSERVATIVE TO PROGRESSIVE CAMP. IN DOING SO, HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD LOST CONFIDENCE THAT LDP COULD DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH PROBLEMS OF INFLATION AND UPWARD SPIRAL OF LAND PRICES. AT SAME TIME HE ALSO STATED THAT HIS OWN POLICIES COINCIDE CLOSELY WITH THOSE OF JSP.

3. LDP FURTHER EMBARRASSED AT BEING TURNED DOWN BY SEVERAL OTHER CHOICES BEFORE SUNADA AGREED TO ACCEPT CHALLENGE OF RUNNING AGAINST POWERFUL INCUMBENT.

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4. LDP DETERMINED TO DO ITS BEST TO REGAIN CONTROL OF LOCAL

ADMINISTRATION OF AT LEAST ONE OF MAJOR PACIFIC COAST INDUSTRIAL CITIES IT HAS LOST TO PROGRESSIVES OVER PAST YEARS, I.E., TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, NAGOYA, OSAKA AND KYOTO BY ELECTION AND NOW KOBE BE DEFECTION, BUT MOST POLITICAL OBSERVERS CONCEDE EDGE TO MAYOR MIYAZAKI.

5. DESPITE ADVERSE CONDITIONS CITED ABOVE, HOWEVER, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY SUSUMU NIKAI DO EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT LDP WOULD WIN ELECTION DURING HIS FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR AMBASSADOR ON MONDAY.
INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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